SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking has extended its ban orders on air conditioners and neon signs; and

(b) if so, what is the estimate of saving of power by this step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) The ban imposed by the Delhi Administration on the use of air-conditioners and neon signs from 6.30 P.M. to 10 P.M. under Clause 4(11) of the Delhi Electricity Control Orders 1959 is already in force. While, it is not possible to quantify the exact savings in power due to the restrictions on the use of air-conditioners/neon-signs, it has helped DESU to improve and stabilise the power supply system.

Coal requirement of Maharashtra thermal power stations

1023. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the coal requirement asked for by Government of Maharashtra for its different thermal power stations; and

(b) what is the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b) According to generation targets agreed to between Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB), the requirement of coal by MSEB thermal power stations for the year 1991-92 works out to 20.162 million tonnes. Against this requirement 4.24 million tonnes of coal was supplied by the coal companies to MSEB during April-June, 1991. The Standing Linkage Committee has fixed a linkage of 5.64 million tonnes of coal for the quarter July-September, 1991 for MSEB thermal power stations. The Standing Linkage Committee will decide the allocations for October-December, 1991 in September, 1991 and for January-March, 1992 in December for MSEB after taking into account its requirements, availability Coal and transport infrastructure and competing demands from other consumers.

Vacancies of Assistant Electric Fitters in DESU

1024. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether candidates were sponsored by Employment Exchange, Pusa, New Delhi, for the posts of Assistant Electric Fitters in DESU in July, 1990 and November, 1990;

(b) if so, the reasons for sending second requisition to employment exchange and the number of candidates sponsored in each list;

(c) whether some candidates belonging to the SC were not called for interview, if so, the number of such candidates and the reasons for not calling them for interview;

(d) whether those SC candidates would now be given opportunity for interview, if so, when; and

(e) the number of reserved vacancies in the grade of Assistant Electric Fitter lying vacant as on the 31st December, 1990 and 31st March, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) According to DESU, the two lists received from the Employment Exchange in July, 1990 and November, 1990 contained the names of 108 and 114 SC/ST candidates respectively for the posts of Assistant Electric Fitters in DESU. The names

of 70 candidates were found included in both the lists, making the total number of candidates as 152. The second requisition to the Employment was necessitated so as to broad-base the selection since out of the first list only 79 per cent furnished their bio-data and most of the candidates did not fulfil the prescribed conditions of experience etc.

(c) and (d) Out of 152 candidates, 57 SC/ST candidates who were found eligible were called for interview. Since the panel for selection has already been declared and only those sponsored candidates who did not fulfil the requisite experience and also did not furnish the bio-data were not called for interview, the question of giving them another opportunity does not arise.

(e) According to DESU, the requisite information is as follows:

Position as on	No. of Vacancies	
	SC	ST
31-12-1990 . .	10	6
31-03-1991 . .	17	7

Prices of Diesel and Kerosene

1025. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out the scheme to roll back prices of diesel, kerosene to July 1990 level; if so, details thereof; and

(b) what were the prices of these commodities in July, 1990 and their current prices?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS: (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The basic ceiling selling price ex-storage point of kerosene for other than industrial use has been reduced by 10 per cent with effect from 25th July, 1991.

(b) The ex-storage point prices of diesel and kerosene in July, 1990 and at present are as follows:

	In July 1990	Rs./KL at present
Diesel . .	3633.53	4541.91
Kerosene* .	1956.93	2201.54

*(Non-industrial use)

Private Sector Participation in the field of Oil and Gas Exploration

1026. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL:

KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to throw open proven oil and gas fields to foreign firms for development;

(b) if so, reasons and terms and conditions therefor; and

(c) what will be the immediate benefits as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) No Sir, except for the inclusion of one block where a small oilfield has been found in the Fourth Round of Bidding.

LP Gas connection on the recommendation of M.Ps.

1027. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether L.P. gas connection